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REMARKS

Telephonic Interview

The Applicant gratefully thanks the Examiner for the telephone interview on December 29, 2005. During the interview, proposed arguments and amendments in response to the Office Action were discussed. The Examiner suggested that the proposed amendment to Claim 32 would be allowable and was sufficiently supported by the specification, and recommended that a limiting amendment be made to Claim 35. The Examiner also requested that supporting disclosure for the amendments be provided. Thus, this response contains, infra, references to supporting disclosure in the specification for the independent claims.

Claims 32-37 were pending in the present application. By virtue of this response, claims 33 and 37 have been cancelled, claims 32, 34 and 35 have been amended, and claims 38-43 have been added. Accordingly, claims 32, 34-36, and 37-43 are currently under consideration. Amendment and cancellation of certain claims is not to be construed as a dedication to the public of any of the subject matter of the claims as previously presented.

No new matter has been added. The amendment to claim 32 is supported at least by disclosure at page 6, lines 23 and 24, and page 9, lines 11-14 of the specification as filed. The amendment to claim 35 are supported at least by disclosure at page 7, lines 19-23 and page 8, lines 3 and 4 of the specification as filed.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 32-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Bournas et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,061,679).

Regarding claim 32, upon review of Bournas, column 6, lines 36-47, Applicant believes that Bournas does not disclose the same invention. The present invention includes generating a second tree from information encountered when traversing the first tree.

Bournas does not disclose that information in the trees is generated from other trees. In fact, Bournas discloses that pre-defined key mask ranges are used to provide an order to the data

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structure. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claim 32 and its dependent claim 34 be withdrawn.

Regarding claim 35, upon review of Bournas, column 6, lines 1-16, Applicant believes that Bournas does not disclose the same invention. The present invention receives first and second values. The Examiner argues that Bournas discloses a routing table with trees that have the values of 1, 32, and 64. However, the values of 1, 32, and 64 as disclosed in Bournas are not values to be used for traversing a first or second tree, but are key mask ranges for the first, second, and third tree respectively. Further, Bournas fails to disclose overwriting a node of the second tree. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claim 35 and its dependent claim 37 be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejections and pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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